

No 11 / 2 March 29th
by D Grant

Both. 20 Dec 1840

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BOTANICAL
GARDEN.

My dear Sir

When I had the pleasure of seeing you,
here you were kind enough to say that you could procure for
me some of the minerals of your State, particularly those of
Bergen Co, although it is a liberty I am unwilling to take of
reminding you, yet being this winter engaged in mineralogical
chiefly crystallographical pursuits, they would be of much service
to me, I trust therefore you will excuse me so doing - Could you
also put me in the way of procuring through Mr Hall or any
other person some of the Minerals from Russia particularly Carbonates
of lime (crystallized) phosphates of lime if possible with termination
Triscan or others - I only desire small well defined specimens
the large sized so much prized by others, would be only broken by me
to extract the best crystals - I should be glad either to purchase
at moderate prices or exchange for others - I do not know
whether you have been informed that Dr C T Jackson has found Tin
in considerable quantity at Jackson Village New Hampshire - I have
hitherto doubted its Existence in N. Am^a never having met with
any one who could authentically state having seen specimens
I have some of it both massive & Crystallized - He has also
found a mineral Evidently, now containing a large proportion of

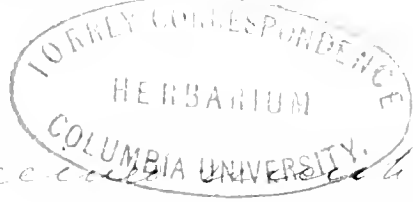
From the J. Brooke Collection

Given by A. M. VAIL.

Glucina - the form is the Leucochora form. the plant I have
I have seen at his house are however ^{which} Glucina. It has
its colour is a light greyish green with a bright luteous appearance
it is from Unity N. Hampshire - You also mentioned having
duplicate of Nuttall's nemostylis which you could furnish
me with - My Gelasine asuea from Buenos Ayres will be
in flower this spring and I should like much to compare it
with nemostylis - I thought it near Tigridia, particularly the
seed vessel Mr Herbert says it is nearer nemostylis although
~~the~~ he has never seen the dried specimen Mr Nuttall told me
the only one in Europe was in Paris - I will carefully dry a specimen
of Gelasine for you if you desire it - I have put seeds through
Mr Eschschman a specimen from Mr Sullivan, of Erysimum
Arkansanum - Nuttall - it very much resembles E. Peroffskianum
of Fischer & Meyer a plant from Caboul of which I have a very
imperfect dried specimen but en revanche two dozen young
growing plants most of which will be put out in the open ground
in spring - from my above specimen of E. Arkansanum I
extracted about a dozen ripe seeds which are consigned to the earth
& I trust to have them both growing together so that a comparison
will be easy - If you wish any dried specimens from
our conservatory I shall be happy to prepare them for you.
Most sincerely Yours
A. Eschschman

And. Aug 9th -

Boston 4 Nov 1842



My dear Sir

I have received your picture from
you since I 20 ult. recd 29 inst. Truly with our communication
was more frequent - no one can be more delighted with Dr Gray's
advent among the Botanists here than myself - I firmly believe that
the only thing requisite to awaken the dormant spirit at Harvard
was some one of his acquirements & spirit, and I do not doubt that
we shall at length have a School of Botany, deserving the name,
but he must not think that the commencement will be easy,
there is an immense store of toil laid up for him - but as the French
say 'Courage en avant' - In plants the only thing new I have is
an *Anotheca* (Godetia) from Secor from the Explorers expedition, it is I believe
more like *Corydalis procumbens* than anything else - it is in full
flower - flowers dull very pale lilac large - the leaves below are very
numerous & small those on the flowering stems are 3 times as
large, linear entire - but I will not give you a description but by
the first opportunity through Dr Gray will send you dried specimens
of this & one or two others - all from California which have flowered
with me - besides there I have a seedling with the ticket a *Scilla*
^{probably *Scilla (Camassia) Esculenta*}
like bulb - *Minimus* *Cardinalis* - *Hosackia* with a single white
flower small, and a *Podalyria*? - When they are in a fit
state specimens of all or any will be at your service -

now now for Mineralogy - The only Tourmalines I have
seen fit for polarisation are some obtained in early days by
Dr C. T. Jackson from Paris Maine I saw one in the hands of
the Lapidary this Spring which he told me was cut in slices

for optical purposes - but it was cut at right angles and not parallel to the axis. I have found small transparent men from Chesterfield but never more than 1/8 of an inch thick they are all split by the immense pressure which has acted on the mass. Should I find any I will share them with you with pleasure.

My opinion of Jackson's Chlorophyllite is that it is Dichroite. I have seen some of it quite blue, but the great difficulty is that it is mixed with other matter mechanically - Whitney who originally analysed it who is now gone to study under Berzelius spent much time on it & always found a very minute portion of phosphate of alumina in it, but I tried to find it extremely difficult to separate it mechanically from the ~~whole~~ ^{whole} Loshen substance with which it is mixed. ~~because~~ the crystallisation ^{however} is in such perfect hexahedral prisms that I do not see how it can be called compressed. I believe I told you I had found the Tin at Chesterfield originally discovered by Mohr in a specimen sent to him I only found 5 or 6 minute ~~flat~~ obtuse octahedrons one bright enough for measurement. a paper from me was read on it at the Geological meeting here last April. One crystal I gave to Dr Hitchcock who in return presented me with a piece of Tin ore he found at Loshen, so that I have now Tin from 3 localities in the up. - one I gave to Jackson & one to Silliman. Have you heard that ~~distimony~~ has been discovered at Carmel in Maine. I have one small specimen when I get more I will send you some if you wish, I believe it is in quantity enough for working; the consumption of this metal is very large in the up of course it is now all imported. I have lately read a paper

of Minerals from Sweden Norway. it contained a few specimens of White, Urtantalite, Carbonate of Lanthanum, fluoride of Cerium, Cerine - Several other specimens from that quartz, I have already divided with Mr Hayes but I have no doubt I can find some smaller pieces for you if you ~~want~~ have them not - also Polymignite & Pyrochlore - Do you know anything of Microlite except what has been in Silliman - I do not understand how Shepard is so wise as to say that he has proved it to be Carbonate of lime & in the next page to admit the probability of the lime being an accidental ingredient - I think I never read such a schoolboy production as his, full of errors from beginning to end - I did not know anything of him, but I learn unanimously that he is not the least authority is conceded to any thing emanating from him.

I have one very fine Pyrochlore from Sweden with modifications in the angles & edges, it is detached and weighs 6 grains I have another full as large from the Ural Mountains & the largest of pyrochlore I have found from Chesterfield weighs about 5 grains - Do you know that singular mineral Vermiculite from Milbury which when exposed to the blowpipe or even before the flame of a candle expands into hexahedra, ^{micaceous} vermicular lengths with all manner of writhings & contortions - There is a mineral called I think Hausmannite which expands in the same way but in a fan shaped form I cannot immediately call to mind its locality & I am writing at the Countess's house without my books - If you do not know it I can send you a piece - We have lately recd some very fine apophyllite from Nova Scotia, but they were nearly all purchased here immediately on their arrival. If you have not seen them I think I can get a piece the form is different from the Mexican apophyllite.

please let me know in answer what you want of these things & I will
 make up a parcel & forward it to you through Dr Gray - It is not my
 habit to stipulate for any return in exchange, nor do I find such stipulations
 of any use in practice as my friend Dr. H. H. H. have had 60 or 70 specimens
 foreign minerals without the ^{unmarked yet} ~~marked~~ return. I am too happy to find
 those interested in Mineralogy with whom to divide my surplus specimens.
 Nevertheless I should be happy to receive any New Jersey or other specimens
 of which you have plenty. Alger has recently returned from thence & as
 Sundcrantz has obtained fine specimens Green & Blue spinelle, of
 crystalline dark blue sapphire & many others. I am in great hopes

Princeton N.J. June 7

Dr. John J. Smith

Princeton

Dr. John J. Smith
 July 18 1854

that this branch of Natural History is looking up here certainly
 the students are rather on the increase - but the means of instruction
 and the ability of procuring specimens are rather scarce - I have filled
 my sheet, but whether it is after all worth your reading I do not know, please
 accept the wish to make it interesting for the good & I am, truly yours,
 Addison to me simply Boston and O'Neil -

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